

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 USIA-06
OES-07 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
/096 W
-----009864 080932Z /15
R 080914Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8247
INFO USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 26016

NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNESCO, PORG, AORG
SUBJECT: UNESCO: MASS MEDIA -- MEETING OF EXPERTS ON
TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND COMMUNICATIONS

REF: (A) PARIS 22714, (B) STATE 186159

1. FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF WORKING SESSIONS ON
SEPT. 1, US DEL CALLED ON HANKOCK (UK, P-5) TO DISCUSS
RESULTS OF CONFERENCE. DOUGLAS GOLDSCHMIDT OF
ANNENBERG SCHOOL WAS ALSO PRESENT. STUART WELLS HAD
CABLED HANKOCK AT LAST MINUTE SAYING THAT HE WOULD NOT
BE ABLE TO ATTEND MEETING. SEVERAL OTHER
PARTICIPANTS ALSO DID NOT SHOW UP, MAKING CONFERENCE
SMALLER, AND WITH NARROWER RANGE OF EXPERTISE, THAN
HAD BEEN HOPED FOR.

2. HANKOCK SAID THAT CONFERENCE EXPRESSLY AVOIDED
DELVING INTO MATTERS WHICH MIGHT HAVE HAD POLITICAL
IMPLICATIONS, ALTHOUGH HE ADDED THAT SOME OF THE
PARTICIPANTS WOULD NOT HAVE AGREED WITH STATEMENT
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REFTEL B THAT FREE FLOW IMBALANCES COULD BE RECTIFIED
BY UPGRADING COMMUNICATIONS STRUCTURES IN INDIVIDUAL
LDCS. HOWEVER, IN CONJUNCTION WITH NON-ALIGNED PRESS
POOLS AND OTHER REGIONAL EFFORTS, IT MIGHT WELL HAVE
AN IMPACT. HE POINTED OUT THAT THAT PROBABLY ONLY THE
US, FRG, AND JAPAN CURRENTLY HAVE CAPABILITY FOR
FURNISHING REQUISITE AID, AND WONDERED THAT SINCE SUCH

ACTIVITIES, AS IN THE PAST, WOULD MOST LIKELY BE CONDUCTED ON BILATERAL BASIS, WHETHER OR NOT THIS WOULD EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS "IMBALANCES" WHICH ARE CONSIDERED FROM A POLITICAL AS WELL AS A PURELY TECHNICAL AND STATISTICAL ANGLE.

3. WHILE DISCUSSION PERIOD WAS TOO SHORT TO DISECT THIS PROBLEM, HANKOCK WENT ON TO NOTE THAT ONE IMPORTANT BUT MISSING FACTOR IS KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT EXACTLY THE US IS ALREADY REPEAT ALREADY DOING IN COMMUNICATIONS FIELD. HE CITED SOME PROJECTS UNDERWAY BY USAID, AND SIGNALLED OUT ONE IN AFGHANISTAN IN WHICH THERE IS ALREADY SOME DEGREE OF COORDINATION BETWEEN USAID AND UNESCO. ONE USEFUL PIECE OF WORK, HE CONTINUED, WOULD BE A RESUME OF US GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE ACTIVITIES ALREADY UNDERWAY IN THIS FIELD, IN ORDER TO TAKE THESE INTO ACCOUNT WHILE LAYING PLANS FOR FUTURE EFFORTS. HANKOCK SAID THAT HE MAINTAINS CONTACT WITH CLIFF BLOCK, COMMUNICATIONS EXPERT WITH USAID, AND WITH STANLEY HANDLEMAN, USAID HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICER IN AFGHANISTAN, AND SUGGESTED THAT DEPT. MIGHT WANT TO COORDINATE WITH THEM ON COMPILING SUCH AN INVENTORY. WHEN DEL OFF SUGGESTED THAT SOMEONE MIGHT BE COMING FROM WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS FURTHER OUR INTEREST IN CHANNELING AID TO LDC'S, HANKOCK MUSED THAT NO HARM COMES FROM THESE VISITS, BUT POINTED OUT THAT HE AND OTHERS CONTACTED EARLIER ON SUCH MATTERS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05

USIA-06 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 OES-07

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WERE BEGINNING TO SUFFER FROM A LACK OF FEEDBACK ON
THE OUTCOME OF THESE VISITS, THUS RAISING THE POSSI-
BILITY OF A CREDIBILITY GAP.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH DISCUSSION WAS UNFORTUNATELY
RATHER BRIEF, IT HIGHLIGHTED SEVERAL KEY ISSUES WITH
WHICH WE MUST COME TO GRIPS BEFORE PROGRESSING MUCH
FURTHER ON QUESTION OF AID IN COMMUNICATIONS FIELD.
FIRST IS WHAT KIND OF AID IS NEEDED WITH RESPECT TO
WHAT IS ALREADY BEING DONE, AND SECOND, BY WHAT MEANS
WILL IT BE CHANNLED TO LDCS, I.E., BILATERALLY OR
MULTILATERALLY. (PERM DEL WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING
INFORMATION ON AID'S CURRENT OR PLANNED ACTIVITIES IN
SUPPORT OF AIDSAT REGIONAL COMMUNI-
CATION SOFTWARE CENTERS.) EACH SET OF QUESTIONS
CLEARLY HAS BOTH TECHNICAL AND POLITICAL COMPONENTS
WHICH MAKES EXERCISE INTERESTING BUT COMPLICATED.
NONETHELESS, WE BELIEVE THAT INDIVIDUALS WHO WILL
BE ENGAGED IN NEXT ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS WITH
SECRETARIAT ON PROGRAM ASPECTS OF MASS MEDIA
SHOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THESE ISSUES IN SOME
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DETAIL, AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON POINTS RAISED
ABOVE.

5. SINCE CONVERSATION WAS SIDETRACKED FROM ACTUAL
RESULTS OF CONFERENCE, HANKOCK SAID HE WOULD MAKE
WORKING PAPERS AVAILABLE TO DEL ON INFORMAL BASIS AS
SOON AS THEY COMPILED. GOLDSCHMIDT ALSO SAID HE
WILLING TO DISCUSS CONFERENCE FURTHER WITH DEPT.
OFFICIALS, AND THAT HE WOULD BE VISITING WASHINGTON
WITHIN NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS. HE CAN BE CONTACTED
AT 558 S. 48TH ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19143.
HARTMAN

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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